

REMARKS

The Examiner's Action mailed on October 18, 2005 has been received and its contents have been carefully considered.

In this Amendment, Applicants have amended claims 2, 6, 11 and 14, and cancelled claim 1. Claim 11 is the independent claim. Claims 8-10 and 21-26 are also canceled herein in response to the Examiner's withdrawal of these claims from consideration. Claims 2-7 and 11-20 are now pending in the application. For at least the following reasons, it is submitted that this application is in condition for allowance.

Applicants note with appreciation that the Examiner has indicated that claims 15-20 are allowed and claims 11-13 would be allowable if rewritten in independent form including all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims. Claim 11 has been amended accordingly. It is therefore respectfully submitted that the independent claim 11 is now in condition for allowance. In addition, claims 12-13 are allowable as they depend from claim 11, as well as for the additional features recited therein.

Claims 1 and 6 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) as allegedly anticipated by *Iba et al.* (U.S. 5,883,006). Claim 1 has been cancelled, and claim 6 has been amended to depend from allowable claim 11. The rejection is therefore no longer applicable and accordingly should be withdrawn.

Claim 2 was rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as allegedly unpatentable over *Iba et al.* (U.S. 5,883,006) in combination with *Pinarbasi et al.* (U.S. 6,861,177). Claim 2 has been amended to be dependent from the allowable claim 11. The rejection is therefore no longer applicable and accordingly should be withdrawn.

Claims 3-5 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as allegedly unpatentable over *Iba et al.* (U.S. 5,883,006) and *Pinarbasi et al.* (U.S. 6,861, 177) as applied to claim 2 and further in combination with *Wang et al.* (U.S. 6,200,907). Claims 2-5 has been amended to be dependent from the allowable claim 11. The rejection of claims 3-5 are therefore no longer applicable and accordingly should be withdrawn.

Claims 6-7 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as allegedly unpatentable over *Iba et al.* (U.S. 5,883,006) in combination with *Hsia* (U.S. 6,251, 568). Claims 6-7 have been amended to be dependent from the allowable claim 11. The rejections therefore are no longer applicable and accordingly should be withdrawn.

Claim 14 was rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as allegedly unpatentable over *Iba et al.* (U.S. 5,883,006) in combination with *Buehrer et al.* (U.S. 6,884,734). Claim 14 has been amended to be dependent from the allowable claim 11. The rejection is therefore no longer applicable and accordingly should be withdrawn.

For at least the foregoing reasons, it is submitted that this application is in condition for allowance and such a Notice, with allowed claims 2-7 and 11-20 earnestly is solicited.

If the Examiner believes that a conference would be of value in expediting the prosecution of this application, the Examiner is hereby invited to telephone the undersigned counsel to arrange for such a conference.

No fee is believed to be due in connection with this amendment and response to Office Action. If, however, any fee is believed to be due, you are hereby authorized to charge any such fee to deposit account No. 20-0778.

Respectfully submitted,

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